

OCA FILE Leg / Rep Panetta

6 June 1989
OCA 1812-89

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information
Service
Director, Office of Personnel

FROM:

Legislation Division
Office of Congressional Affairs

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SUBJECT: H.R. 2188 - Request for Comments

1. Attached for your information and comment please find a copy of H.R. 2188, the "Foreign Language Competence for the Future Act of 1989," along with the introductory remarks of Representative Panetta, its sponsor.

2. This bill would increase federal funding for foreign language instruction. Section 3 of the bill would establish a program of federal grants to institutions of higher education to provide summer school instruction to elementary and secondary school foreign language teachers. Section 4 would establish a program of grants for college students majoring in foreign languages.

3. At present, the bill does not appear to be moving and, to date, the Bush Administration has not taken a position on it. The Administration, though, has generally opposed educational grant/loan programs (outsides of mathematics and the sciences) and thus could be expected to oppose this bill. Should there be sufficient Agency interest in expressing support for the bill, the Administration's position could be tested by forwarding to the Office of Management and Budget for Administration clearance a draft views letter on the bill.

4. In order to determine the extent of Agency interest in the bill, we would appreciate receiving your comments on it by 16 June 1989.

5. Your cooperation is most appreciated.

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Attachment

OCA 1812-89

SUBJECT: H.R. 2188 - Request for Comments

OCA/LEG/ [redacted] (5 June 1989)

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101ST CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2188

To establish programs to improve foreign language instruction, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 1989

Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. ESPY, Mr. COLEMAN of Missouri, Mr. HATCHER, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. FUSTER, Mr. DARDEN, Mr. WOLF, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MORRISON of Connecticut, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SAVAGE, Mr. DWYER of New Jersey, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. PORTER, Mr. FAZIO, Mr. ATKINS, Mr. DYMALLY, Mr. DORGAN of North Dakota, Mr. EVANS, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. DE LUGO, Mrs. UNSOELD, Mr. DICKS, and Mr. CONTE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish programs to improve foreign language instruction,
and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Foreign Language
Competence for the Future Act of 1989".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

1 (1) the future economic welfare and national secu-
2 rity of the United States will substantially depend upon
3 our ability to educate our citizens to communicate in
4 other languages;

5 (2) 26 States currently have severe foreign lan-
6 guage teachers shortages and others predict severe
7 shortages in the next decade;

8 (3) only 17 percent of United States public ele-
9 mentary schools offer any form of language instruction;

10 (4) instruction in major languages such as Rus-
11 sian, Japanese, Chinese, and Arabic are rarely offered
12 at any educational level;

13 (5) many small- and medium-sized United States
14 firms with export capacity and potential fail to take ad-
15 vantage of international markets because of lack of
16 cross-cultural skills and expertise; and

17 (6) many small school districts in rural areas are
18 unable to offer foreign languages except through tech-
19 nology for distance learning.

20 SEC. 3. SUMMER FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTITUTES.

21 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is author-
22 ized to provide grants to institutions of higher education or
23 consortia of such institutions for the establishment and oper-
24 ation of summer foreign language institutes for the profes-

1 sional development of the proficiency of elementary and sec-
2 ondary foreign language teachers.

3 (b) PROGRAM PARTICIPATIONS.—Programs operated
4 with grants under this section shall—

5 (1) provide a preference for elementary teacher
6 development and the retraining of secondary teachers
7 for elementary schools; and

8 (2) allow teachers from other fields to retrain as
9 foreign language teachers.

10 (c) GRANT LIMITATIONS.—Grants pursuant to this
11 section shall—

12 (1) not exceed \$3,000 per teacher;

13 (2) not exceed 300 teachers per institute;

14 (3) not provide less than one institute in each
15 State; and

16 (4) not exceed \$400,000 to any institution.

17 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are
18 authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 to carry out this
19 section for fiscal year 1990 and for each of the 4 succeeding
20 fiscal years.

21 SEC. 4. FOREIGN LANGUAGE LOANS.

22 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is author-
23 ized to allot funds appropriated under the authority of subsec-
24 tion (g) among State education agencies for the purpose of
25 establishing revolving loan funds to encourage college stu-

1 dents to major in elementary and secondary foreign language
2 education.

3 (b) LOAN LIMITS.—Revolving loan funds that are es-
4 tablished by a State education agency with funds provided
5 under this Act shall be available to provide each student
6 qualifying for assistance under this section who is majoring in
7 a foreign language or foreign language education at an insti-
8 tution of higher education with education loans not to
9 exceed—

10 (1) \$5,000 a year for those majoring in commonly
11 taught languages; and

12 (2) \$7,500 a year for those majoring in less-com-
13 monly taught languages.

14 (c) STUDENT REQUIREMENTS.—A student is eligible to
15 receive financial assistance pursuant to this section if the
16 student—

17 (1) is enrolled as a full-time student in an institu-
18 tion of higher education;

19 (2) has not defaulted on any federally assisted
20 student loan;

21 (3) enters into an agreement with the Secretary to
22 pursue a teaching career in an elementary or second-
23 ary school after graduation; and

1 (4) agrees to annually provide, from a State edu-
2 cation agency, verification of employment as an ele-
3 mentary or secondary foreign language teacher.

4 (d) INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State education agency
6 providing educational loans to students from a revolv-
7 ing loan fund established with funds provided under
8 this Act shall—

9 (A) collect any loan or portion thereof in ac-
10 cordance with subsection (e), and

11 (B) certify annually to the Secretary that
12 students receiving such loans are in compliance
13 with the provisions of this Act.

14 (2) REPAYMENTS.—Each State education agency
15 shall deposit all repayments of educational loans pro-
16 vided pursuant to this Act into the revolving loan fund
17 of the State education agency established with funds
18 provided pursuant to subsection (b).

19 (3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—In any fiscal year
20 each State education agency receiving assistance under
21 this Act may retain an amount not to exceed 5 percent
22 of the amount of funds allotted to the institution under
23 subsection (a) for the costs of administering the revolv-
24 ing loan fund established under subsection (b).

25 (e) LOAN TERMS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each loan made to a student
2 by a State education agency from a revolving loan fund
3 established with funds provided under this Act—

4 (A) shall not accrue interest before the date
5 that is 90 days after the day on which the student
6 ceases to be enrolled at an institution of higher
7 education;

8 (B) shall accrue interest at an annual rate of
9 5 percent after such date;

10 (C) shall be repaid over a period that does
11 not exceed 10 years; and

12 (D)(i) shall provide for cancellation of one
13 year's loan and interest for each two years of
14 teaching foreign language in an elementary or
15 secondary school; or

16 (ii) shall provide for cancellation of one
17 year's loan and interest for each year of teaching
18 foreign languages in an elementary or secondary
19 school (I) serving a school attendance area that
20 receives assistance under title I of the Elementary
21 and Secondary Education Act of 1965, or (II) lo-
22 cated in a rural area as defined by the Secretary
23 by regulation.

24 (f) LOAN FORGIVENESS.—

1 (1) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary annually
2 shall reimburse State education agencies for the por-
3 tion of the principal and interest of any loan that is
4 canceled by reason of subsection (e).

5 (2) DEPOSIT OF REIMBURSEMENTS.—Each State
6 education agency receiving payments pursuant to para-
7 graph (1) shall deposit such payments into the revolv-
8 ing loan funds of the State education agency estab-
9 lished with funds provided under this Act pursuant to
10 subsection (d).

11 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are
12 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
13 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1990 and for each of the 4 suc-
14 ceeding fiscal years.

15 SEC. 5. FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTITUTES.

16 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is author-
17 ized to make grants to States and major metropolitan areas
18 on a matching basis to establish foreign language institutes,
19 and for units within world trade councils, to provide language
20 training, translation services, and information about other
21 cultures and markets for small- and medium-sized businesses
22 seeking to enter export markets.

23 (b) GRANT LIMITS.—No grant under this section shall
24 exceed \$800,000 per State or city.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are
2 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1990 and for each of the 4 suc-
4 ceeding fiscal years.

5 SEC. 6. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS FOR DISTANCE LEARNING.

6 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is author-
7 ized to make demonstration grants to State education agen-
8 cies, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit education
9 and professional associations to provide technology for dis-
10 tance learning in cooperation with foreign language teachers
11 and specialists to serve small and rural school districts, small
12 colleges, community colleges, and adult business education
13 classes through video tapes, cassettes, satellite linkages,
14 cable programs, teleclasses, and computer-assisted-instruc-
15 tion.

16 (b) GRANT LIMITATION.—No grants under this section
17 shall exceed \$200,000 in any fiscal year.

18 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are
19 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
20 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1990 and for each of the 4
21 succeeding fiscal years.

22 SEC. 7. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS FOR CRITICAL LANGUAGE
23 AND AREA STUDIES.

24 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is author-
25 ized to make demonstration grants to eligible consortia to

1 operate critical languages and area studies programs, develop
2 and acquire educational equipment and materials, and devel-
3 op teacher training programs, texts, curriculum, and other
4 activities designed to improve and expand the instruction of
5 foreign languages at elementary and secondary schools across
6 the Nation.

7 (b) STUDY ABROAD REQUIRED.—Each program receiv-
8 ing a grant under this section shall include a study abroad or
9 cultural exchange program (or both).

10 (c) GRANT LIMITATION.—No grant under this section
11 shall exceed \$2,000,000 to any consortium in any fiscal year.

12 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are
13 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
14 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1990 and for each of the 4 suc-
15 ceeding fiscal years.

16 SEC. 8. REGULATIONS.

17 The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may
18 be necessary to carry out this Act within 90 days after the
19 date of enactment of this Act. Such regulations shall establish
20 procedures for the selection of grant and loan recipients, for
21 the distribution of funds, and for the evaluation and review of
22 the results of the programs authorized by this Act.

23 SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.

24 As used in this Act—